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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A battery can for accommodating electrochemical materials therein, said battery can comprising:

an elongated and substantially cylindrical shell, said shell having a wall with a smooth outer surface, said wall having an inner surface; and

a plurality of lands and grooves formed on said inner surface of said wall, said lands and grooves defining a substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern on said inner surface.

2. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said lands and grooves extend longitudinally and for substantially an entire axial length of said battery can.

3. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern on said inner wall is a sinusoidal pattern in cross-section.

4. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern is one of a rectangular, a trapezoidal and a v-shaped pattern in cross-section.

5. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said grooves extend into said wall by an amount approximately equal to 25% of a cross-sectional thickness of said wall.

6. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

no portion of an axial length of said shell is below approximately 0.004 inches in cross-sectional thickness.

7. (Original) The battery can according to claim 3, wherein:

a minimum radii of said lands of said sinusoidal pattern is approximately equal to 0.005 inches.

8. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said battery can is a AA-sized battery can; and

approximately 100 to 150 of said grooves are defined on said inner surface.

9. (Original) The battery can according to claim 1, wherein:

said battery can is a AA-sized battery can; and

approximately 120 of said grooves are defined on said inner surface.

10-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Withdrawn) A battery can for accommodating electrochemical materials therein, said battery can comprising:

an elongated and substantially prismatic shell, said shell having a wall with a smooth outer surface, said wall having an inner surface; and

a plurality of lands and grooves formed on said inner surface of said wall, said lands and grooves defining a substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern on said inner surface.

22. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 21, wherein:

said lands and grooves extend longitudinally and for substantially an entire axial length of said battery can.

23. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 21, wherein:

said substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern on said inner wall is a sinusoidal pattern in cross-section.

24. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 21, wherein:

said substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern is one of a rectangular, a trapezoidal and a v-shaped pattern in cross-section.

25. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 21, wherein:

said grooves extend into said wall by an amount approximately equal to 25% of a cross-sectional thickness of said wall.

26. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 21, wherein:

no portion of an axial length of said shell is below approximately 0.004 inches in cross-sectional thickness.

27. (Withdrawn) The battery can according to claim 23, wherein:

a minimum radii of said lands of said sinusoidal pattern is approximately equal to 0.005 inches.

28-36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) A battery can for accommodating electrochemical materials therein, said battery can comprising:

an elongated shell, said shell having a wall with a smooth outer surface, said wall having an inner surface; and

a plurality of lands and grooves formed on said inner surface of said wall, said lands and grooves defining a substantially uniform and continuously repeating pattern on said inner surface.